

**Folder 14:
Swanson,
Mayreld, Mrs.
(Yukon
Presbytery,
Director of
Christian
Education)
1959-1960**

MAR 16 1959

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS
OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.
BOX 2539 - JUNEAU, ALASKA

March 11, 1959

C
O
P
Y
Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
c/o Rev. Robert Van Nest
Craig, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

I am sorry to hear that you are loosing your apartment in Juneau. You have just gotten nicely settled in it and have enjoyed it so very much. Since reading your previous letter of February 23rd I have not used the apartment at all. I am sorry that some of the Sheldon Jackson young people were the cause of some irritation by the other tenants, but I feel they were being overly critical.

Word got to me quite late that you had been in the hospital at Ketchikan. I was sorry to hear this but was glad to hear that you had recovered from the flu and had proceeded on to Craig.

While I was in Seattle Dr. Jackman and I discussed your work and your letter saying that you felt you should make a change in your work by next fall. We are sorry to learn that you do not plan to continue on in the kind of work you have been doing as we both feel that you have accomplished very good results in the kind of programming you have been doing this past 6 months. You also asked about attending the Director's Conference April 27-May 1 near Seattle. I am sure that this would be very worthwhile, but both Dr. Jackman and I raised the question of whether you should go in the light of your decision to leave this position this summer? There is some question in my mind as to how definite you are in your decision. You noted that you are planning a school here in Juneau in September.

I do not know what happened to the missing sheets and slips. I sent out laundry only once and the balance of the soild linen you picked up in my office. Possibly Isabel knows something about it.

I will see you next month at Presbytery time. My warmest personal regards. Irene wants to be remembered to you.

Sincerely,

Brian H. Cleworth

CC / Dr. J. Earl Jackman

MAR 16 1959

Craig, Alaska
March 13, 1959

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I am having to give up my nice apartment and arrangement in Juneau. The owners of the building(Mayor McSpadden) are having to vacate the apartment they are in so they want to live in their own building. At this point the only thing I can think of to do is to accept her offer of Apartment One which is the one I had three years ago. It is a \$50.00 room. I have to be out of the present one by April 10 which means I shall have to get in to Juneau by the 8th or 9th. Moving in the same building should not be too bad although that little room is going to be extremely crowded. I am tempted to put everything back in storage and take a hotel room for the present and through the summer.

Do you know yet or will you know soon if we are to have a couple at Hood Bay? We are supposed to let the Superintendent know early in April if we will want the cabin so they can reserve it for us. The same would no doubt be true of Chatham although we have not approached Mr. Knight again until we could say that we do have someone for him this year.

Best wishes,

cc/ Brian Cleworth

Mayreld Swanson

P.S. Probably the best thing to do about my rent after this month is to let me pay the \$50.00 until I can back up there and think what to do.

March 24, 1959

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Craig, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

I have been away from the office for nearly six weeks, and find there are three letters here from you which need an answer. We were sorry to learn that you had to go into the hospital in Ketchikan, but that was the wisest thing for you to do. When one is alone and ill, the hospital becomes a real blessing. We were glad to know that your illness was stopped in a short time, and you were able to continue your work without interruption in the regular program.

We were glad to receive word that you had a much more satisfactory experience in Haines than you had in Skagway. I had deliberately refrained from using you or anyone else to get inside information about other missionaries or churches in Alaska, but there are a few occasions and places where I am sure that you can tell me things, without prejudice, with allowance for human traits, that would be good for me to know in administrative relationships. Some day I may sit down and ask you some questions.

After your return to Alaska, I have had no thought of placing you anywhere else. We have appreciated the development of this program which you have given us and are glad to have you in it. However, we have recognized your constant movement, and your inability to pick up continuous relationships with other people and places. If you have in mind someplace where you would like to settle, we certainly want to cooperate with you in it, but are not anxious for you to leave the good job which you are doing. I can talk to you about this at the time of Presbytery.

Sorry to hear that you must move again. We wonder if it would be a good idea to put some of your trunks in storage and keep the smaller room in the apartment. This would not be so expensive, and would give you the "home base" without having to carry all of your things as you go in and out of Juneau.

I see that Brian has written you our reaction about attending the Regional Directors Workshop before I had the opportunity to get a letter to you. It would be nice for you to do this, and if you want to do it on your own time and expense, it could be counted a part of your vacation. We feel that the provision of scholarship for you last winter in school

should complete our responsibility for special courses for at least two years, therefore, we would not make financial provision for travel or scholarship for this conference.

As soon as I can get to it, I want to confer with Mrs. Armstrong of our Personnel, for the summer program. I understand that she has sent some references to you for your examination and approval. Last November, I interviewed two seminary students in San Francisco who were very enthusiastic about coming up for work in the cannery communities, but have now discovered that both of them plan to remain at the Seminary to complete their Hebrew requirements during the summer. We have six students and two ordained ministers cleared for service this summer, and hope to have two more from San Francisco. We have not assigned them yet because we do not know whether Ken and Ron are definitely coming out for the summer. We may not have the answer on this for the end of April, but I hope to know soon that we will have students for Hood Bay and Pelican. We will give you an answer on this as soon as possible. We have not heard anything further as to whether the canneries will take any responsibility for the provision of housing and meals. It seems to me we should not pay the entire bill when they are having the benefit of the service.

Best regards to you. We trust that you are having a fine experience at Craig and Klawock.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:EW
CC : The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

FEB 24 1959
cc Dr J
February 19, 1959

Box 2539
Juneau, Alaska

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Enclosed is my January report, also my letter to the Session giving the report to them of the six weeks in Haines. It was a very satisfactory six weeks. It was difficult to get in meetings but we did get some things done and left enough undone to make a couple more work nights necessary and I am sure it will get done. They have a fine Committee there. Five members and all were ready and willing to do whatever is necessary to get the job done. It was so good to work with them. You will be pleased to see the newly painted basement. And the new tables are really something! They are also ordering primary and kindergarten chairs.

Tomorrow night I am meeting with the minister and members of the Christian Ed. Committees of the three Juneau churches to talk plans for the fall-- in case I am to be here and plans if I am not. I am very glad that all three churches will be represented.

The Regional Director's Workshop is to be held April 27 to May 1 near Seattle and I am hoping that my travel budget will allow for my going down. It will be at the end of my Craig work and I feel it will be worthwhile. I will go to Presbytery via the A.J. and back to Craig again and can go down to Seattle from there if this meets with your approval. I have not talked to Brian about this. He is away just now and will not be back before I go on to Craig, but a copy of this goes to him.

I leave Monday for Petersburg for a conference with Ren. On to Ketchikan for four days follow up work there and on to Craig on Saturday the 28th of Feb.

Referring back to our conversation of last October -- I am definitely interested in some work where I can be settled in one place -- where I can return to my base of operations each night or at least each week. I am sure that with the number of Lend-Lease Counselors in the field or at least those who may be interested in this kind of work, and with the plan so well organized now in this area, that it will not be difficult to get another Director. Do you have anything at all in mind that might be a good place to put me?

Thank you very much for the Christmas book and for this apartment! What a pleasure to come back to it. Maybe too pleasant. Makes some home life seem awfully attractive.

Sincerely
Mayfield.

the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in ALASKA

Alaska has proved its value, and statehood is on its way. However, the territory is more than ever today faced with problems of adjustment. Naval petroleum projects and radar stations in the north have introduced some aspects of western civilization to the Eskimos without bringing in counterbalancing attitudes of philosophy. Similarly, the opening of the Alaska Highway brought in people from the outside and with them an awareness of many material improvements in modern living; but basic problems remain unchanged. Living is still high in cost. Economic opportunity is limited, with natural resources inaccessible and with the working season,

in many livelihoods, confined to one season. Privileged monopolists skim the cream, while the ordinary white worker has few rights or privileges, and the Eskimo even less. Too often, frustration finds its outlet in gambling, the use of alcohol, and in prostitution. Presbyterians started the first Protestant work in the territory in 1877. Today, the Church can claim some 120 enterprises, with 125 missionaries and an inter-racial church membership in the thousands. The work is difficult, and in material ways unrewarding—but it claims its workers. It must go on.

*Summer, 1958

- ★ Town with one organized church
- ★ Town with two organized churches
- △ Preaching Point
- ★ Town with three or more organized churches
- ▲ School or other institution
- Alaska Railroad
- Alaska Highway and branches
- ✈ U.S. Air services

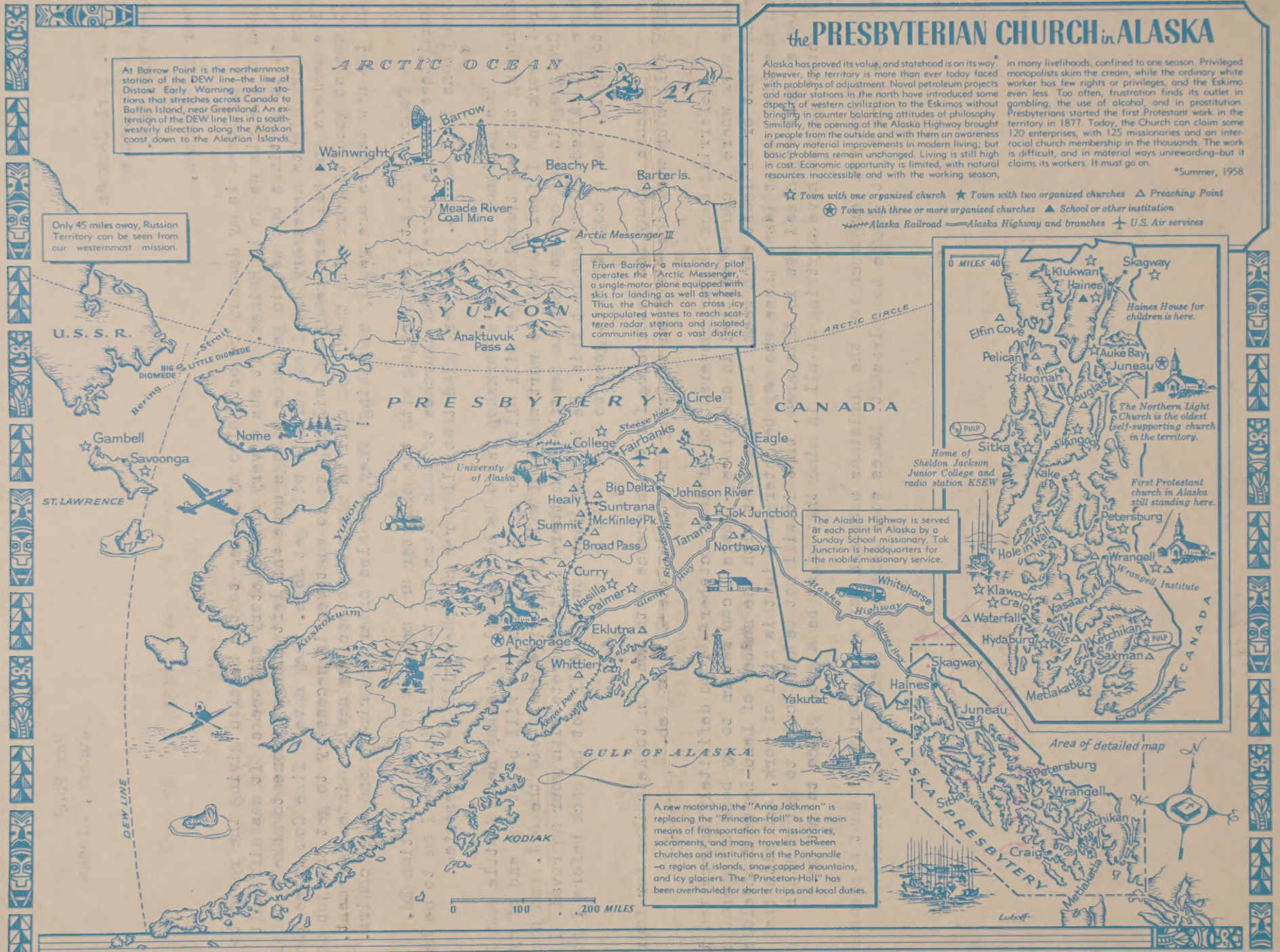
At Barrow Point is the northernmost station of the DEW line—the line of Distow Early Warning radar stations that stretches across Canada to Baffin Island, near Greenland. An extension of the DEW line lies in a south-westerly direction along the Alaskan coast down to the Aleutian Islands.

Only 45 miles away, Russian Territory can be seen from our westernmost mission.

From Barrow, a missionary pilot operates the "Arctic Messenger," a single-motor plane equipped with skis for landing as well as wheels. Thus the Church can cross icy unpopulated wastes to reach scattered radar stations and isolated communities over a vast district.

The Alaska Highway is served at each point in Alaska by a Sunday School missionary. Tok Junction is headquarters for the mobile missionary service.

A new motorship, the "Anna Jackman" is replacing the "Princeton-Hall" as the main means of transportation for missionaries, sacraments, and many travelers between churches and institutions of the Panhandle—a region of islands, snow-capped mountains, and icy glaciers. The "Princeton-Hall" has been overhauled for shorter trips and local duties.



JUL 13 1959

Box 2539
Juneau, Alaska
July 9, 1959

Miss Freida Koerner,
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Freida,

Dr. Jackman told me, when I saw him in Juneau that he thought \$500.00 had been forwarded to my account for the S.J.S.II operations during the summer. I have not received a notification of this from the Bank nor the blue sheets from you for itemization of the account. Will you please look in to this for me as I need some money for boat expenses already. Have been using the \$600.00 for the summer workers and it is about gone.

Also, for my April expense account I sent in the total of \$215.20. I received the ~~112.50~~ 112.50 for the rent but so far as I know have not received the balance of ~~\$92.70~~ 102.70. Sorry to bother you about this.

I hope your vacation is around the corner for you real soon and that you will have a good rest.

Sincerely,

Mrs Maynard Swanson

1/20/59 requested
sent from
1,20 AS
in forms to
Mrs P.

→ sent to Bank of Oettersburg 5/6/59 - 120 A2

112.50 120 A1
102.60 48.51 - 120 A2
215.10 54.09 - 120 A1

July 20, 1959

VIA AIRMAIL

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Angoon
Alaska

(envelope marked:
hold for arrival via SJS II
on July 24 to August 2nd.)

Dear Mrs. Swanson:

Your letter of the 9th and 13th have been received and noted.

We were not aware of the fact that \$500. was to be sent to you for the summer work on the SJSII. We have now asked our Treasury to deposit this amount in your account per copy of payment voucher enclosed, and will appreciate having the enclosed accounting forms returned to our office when completed.

Thank you for bringing to our attention the fact that the balance of your April 1959 expenses totaling \$102.60 had not been sent to your bank for deposit. We do have a record that the rent for April and May totaling \$112.50 had been forwarded, but we had not finished the job of paying you the balance of the \$215.10 total expense for the month. We have now requested our Treasury to take care of this, and the enclosed duplicate copy of our payment request is for your information when checking your bank statements.

Know you must have a busy summer, and trust it has been worthwhile for all concerned. We have sent all of the honorariums for the 13 summer students to them care of Rainbow Glacier Work Camp, Haines, Alaska for their arrival there on August 4th. We marked the envelopes in this way too. The only exception was Janice Prochaska, and we have sent her honorarium of \$86.65 for service from June 13 to August 5 at \$50. per month to her on July 13 to Edna Bay. We hope it reaches her by now.

We have sent vouchers to all the students asking them to return them completed to our office giving us the date of their departure from home for Seattle and their return from Seattle to their home. We are responsible for the 7c per day insurance coverage from "portal to portal" providing no extra time was taken for personal visitation or purposes. Will you please see that the students return these vouchers to us as soon as possible? They are essential in our summer details for summarizing.

I leave for vacation on August 8th and will be happy to get away from all the details, etc. Will be spending the time at Cape Cod which is quite lovely and a complete change. Hope you are well and will be able to get some time off for relaxation and recreation. Best wishes from all of us.

Sincerely yours,

fk (encs. for your info')

al Swanson



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

RIVERSIDE 9-2200

November 23, 1959

Dr. Walter L. Clark
Board of Pensions
Witherspoon Building
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Dear Walter:

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson of Juneau, Alaska has asked me to get her some information regarding her pension credits. As of what date did she begin paying premiums and receiving credit? Has she had continuous credits to the present? As of what date will she have served 10 years and can have her pension credits in, should she withdraw from service with us during the next year or more? Thank-you for your information on this.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman

JEF/CB

cc Personnel

Box 1199

Juneau, Alaska

December 3, 1959

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I am sending the November report on this form- first because I am out of the others and secondly because the others do not, to me, tell the story of the kind of thing I am doing. I hope this is satisfactory for the present.

I plan to keep my present apartment when I go to Hydaburg January first. At least I should like to keep it. It is \$76.50 per month including tax. Will you please let me know if rent will be available once more from the Board and if so how much? My landlady is Mrs. Henrietta Sievenpiper, 209 Gold Street, Juneau. I am going to try to concentrate my work in Hydaburg and get in some good "licks" in four weeks, if possible. Will then stop on my way back and, if agreeable to Bob Simonds, will give him some help in Kake for awhile. I have also suggested to Ron Snelling that I could be available to his church since no one in this area (Yakutat excepted) has sent in further applications. I have asked Ron to let me know because if not needed here, I could give my time to the Anchorage area, or Fairbanks. Chuck Jenkins has not applied, he only wrote me and asked if I could come.

Mr. Fritchard told me of the merging of the two churches in Anchorage. What would be the possibility of a full time D.C.E. in that situation under the Board of N. Missions? Or what possibility of my doing at least one year in that area?

I have found a piece of land in Haines on which I am filing, but this land can be proved up now without the old requirement of living on it. These are small tracts but we pay for these tracts plus the minimum requirements of clearing, building etc. However, the land is rented and improvements must be made by end of two years.

My work here in this area is going along quite well- almost too smoothly, I would say. I do not think the churches are using me as much as they should and could but the response for the most part has been good. I wish I could give more time to the Auke Bay and Memorial churches. They want more help when I return in March.

Had a very good time at the Family Night dinner at Memorial last night. They have some wonderful teachers down there. If only somehow we could get the same understanding and devotion throughout the church!

My best wishes to you in the new offices with all the problems that must surely be met with such a move.

Sincerely,

Margaret

copy of what she has been saying

*from mother?
76.50 or 86.50
we just
wer. rent
of \$86.70
her ms
as of 4/1/59
rent up there
until or heat.*

January 4, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Box 1199,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Finally I have received the information from the Treasury Department that the "Old Colony Fund is a very successful Fund which specializes in capital gains. It is not a balanced fund, and is, therefore, more speculative in nature. It is considered a perfectly safe investment." It would appear from the different prices which you paid for these shares that the value of it on the market has fluctuated considerably. From this, I would conclude it is speculative in nature, and has not increased greatly in value unless you are getting a very high percentage of return on your investment. I understand that some of these funds are considered "growth" funds, and their capital value has increased greatly over the last two years. Others are more speculative, and have the possibility of going up or down. We are not making any attempt to make a recommendation whether you should sell what you have, and transfer to another fund, or keep what you have. However, it is my impression that there are other funds which have shown a greater increase in value than the Old Colony. We do not know what you are receiving by way of interest.

We have been making some study of reports from Alaska at the end of 1959, and discover that we have incomplete reports from you. You have been giving us the information about the meetings, the attendances, and the days which you have spent in this work with some narrative on the back. However, we do not have any voucher for you which has called for your salary, rent and expense over the year. This situation may have developed when you began to use the same type of forms which Brian had. As a member of the staff, Brian would not be required to sign a voucher for his salary, but he would have to include a report of his work and the expenses incurred during each month, which came to our office. For everyone in the missionary field, it is required that we have a statistical and narrative report with a statement of all expenses and a voucher for salary and rent where this applies. I am not sure that we should now go back and try to do this for last year, but beginning January 1, we will have to add this to your necessary reporting.

In connection with the reports, we raise the question whether you might want to continue to use the same form which you have been using, and add a regular monthly voucher to it, or whether we ought to seek to design a special report which would cover the type of work which you are doing, and include the voucher for your salary, rent and expense. We are willing to have you make some recommendation on this.

In a preceding letter about the availability of rent for you for the coming year, we notified you that housing provision that goes with salary does not normally include heat and utilities. The rental of an apartment in an apartment building would have these included in your rental allowance. For 1960, we are setting up a docket to pay a basic amount direct to your landlord, and will depend upon you to pay the small supplemental amount which could represent heat and utilities, which you will not be using very heavily because you will be away from the apartment most of the time in the winter. Incidentally, there will be an increase in your salary for 1960, so we do not feel^{too} badly about taking this occasion to adjust this matter of heat in your rent.

During the Christmas season, we received the two trays from the Alaska forests, and we have one at the office, and one at home. One of these days, my wife will be writing you about the things which we received at home.

Best regards as you begin the New Year in service. We know that you are going to have many mixed reactions in going to Nudaburg, but we also know that your devotion to the Cause is equal to these, and can rise above them.

Sincerely,

JLJ/csb

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

December 15, 1959

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Box 1199,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Booth Bayless
Thank you for the telegram which brought us the information about the death of Isabel. It came in time for me to get a wire off to the family in Belton before the funeral service. There was no opportunity to send any flowers, but we could convey our sympathy in their loss.

We had a letter from Harry Knecht, assistant treasurer of the Board of Pensions, that you entered the Pension Plan on September 20, 1950, so that as of September 20, 1960, you will have completed ten years of service with continuous pension payments. This means that your pension credits could remain if you decide to go a-teaching.

I sent the memo about the shares of stock to Mr. Locke, but he has been so busy in this moving operation that he has not responded. I have called his office and will hope for an answer soon.

The two churches in Anchorage are talking about moving, rather merging, and keeping the two ministers. With two ministers on the staff, I doubt if there will be a place for a D.C.E..

Rent will be available after January 1, but will be without utilities. The normal provision is housing without utilities or heat. If you are away very much, you will not use many utilities, but the heat would be provided anyway as a part of your total net cost of rent.

Glad to know that you have felt your efforts in Juneau have brought some response and support. We trust that you will have a similar experience in Hydaburg. Best regards to you during the Christmas season.

Cordially,

JEJ/csb
cc: The Rev. Wm. M. Pritchard

J. Earl Jackman

Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

JAN 12 1960

January 7, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Since the form used previously for my reports do not adequately cover my work nor give a true picture of people and children worked with, I would like to recommend that you do as suggested "design a special report which would cover the type of work" I am doing and also include the voucher for salary, rent and expense.

I am sorry that a whole year- probably more - went by without the full report and vouchers for your office. In my annual Statistical report, however, I used the blank sent me and did include salary and expenses for each month. If you would like for me to do something to help your records for the past year in this respect, I will be glad to do so.

Thank you very much for the information about my shares in the Old Colony Fund. Will you please send me the name and address of the Church concern about which you told me last fall- in Philadelphia I believe you said. I will write them for information.

Also thank you for the rent allowance. I informed my landlady of the possibility of the rent being sent directly to her. Will you want a receipt each month? If so please let me know as she is somewhat negligent about this- or she was with me- and I will be glad to check with her about it.

Thus far this week have met with the teachers and session. Will have two demonstration teaching session each week in four departments which with my planning sessions with the teachers will give a great deal of training. Should be through by February 1st unless it seems necessary to stay longer.

Best wishes,

Mayreld
Mayreld Swanson

*If you are through with
my slides I have a call
for them from the Fellowship Church.
Thank you.*

MAR 7 1960

Kake, Alaska
February 29, 1960

Dear Art,

Your letter received yesterday in Petersburg and I must say that the prospect of working with you out there at Gagebell and Saveonga is very exciting and I shall certainly see what can be done about it. I surely appreciate the invitation and even at this point it does not seem impossible at all. However, the time element will take some planning.

I am supposed to work here in Kake for a two week period and return to Juneau by March 15. There am to spend another two weeks. Also I would feel that I would want to spend at least a month in each of your churches on the island when I do go out there. I just came from Petersburg where I worked for two weeks and it is not enough time. I am supposed to spend 6 weeks in each place. But in a small place like Hydaburg where I had the full cooperation of the people during a slack month for the village five weeks was just right. Of course it may be that a month in each place would work a hardship on you and your people so this would need to be considered.

I have been using Saturday afternoons as well as our regular Sunday session time to do demonstration teaching. A sample schedule as follows:

Saturday -	Kindergarten dept (with Hdq. children present)
Sunday	Primary dept.
Next Saturday	Junior dept.
Sunday	Nursery "

Midweek days or evenings - Session meetings, Teacher meetings, Parent or family nighets, etc.,

On the remaining Saturdays and Sundays demonstrations are repeated but with teachers working with me. This kind of schedule would have to be adjusted to your situation of course.

Ron Shelling, chairman of our Presbytery C.E. Education committee, was in Juneau when your letter came so I phoned him to let him know about this invitation so that he could talk it over with some of the men on the Council

I have had no further applications from the Presbytery here in S.E. Alaska so do not know what is on the agenda for the coming fall and winter. If it can be arranged for me to go out to St. Lawrence Island, I would then want to work some of the other churches of the Interior and Anchorage areas in to my schedule. I shall send a copy of this letter with your own to Dr. Jackman, and Ron already knows so let us consider that the wheels have already begun to turn. With this crack in the door of opportunity- (I have wanted for a long time a good reason for getting to your part of the world and to the Interior churches)- I would be the last to say "it's impossible" nor even that "it can't be done."

If I can really be of help and such a trip worthwhile to everyone, then I would say that the Lord and even the Board would be on our side and an assignment in the St. Lawrence Island churches entirely within the realm of possibility. If Dr. Jackman and this Presbytery will agree to such a plan then I would say that you and the men of Yukon Presbytery would need to plan together as to dates and time to be spent in each place. Believe me I am thrilled over the thought of helping you. Thank you for your good letter. Am looking forward to meeting your Carolyn.

Swanson file



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK 27, N. Y. RIVERSIDE 9-2200

March 11, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Box 1199
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

see French file 2/12/60 etc.

I can well imagine what Art French's letter did to you and can visualize your enthusiasm rising as you read the letter and realized what this could mean for you and for them. Also I talked to Frank Walkup in Seattle and he has expressed their continued interest in having you come over to be with them for a period of time.

In your reply to Art you have indicated that you are scheduled up to the month of March and since more than one week in each of the villages on St. Lawrence Island would be preferable, you seem to have eliminated Art's proposal of coming prior to the meeting of Yukon Presbytery. Also if more time in each village were contemplated this Spring you would then be out of touch with the summer program in southeastern Alaska. Your proposal of fall on this seems better, if we are able to accomplish it.

It is well within the realm of possibility but let us not get our hopes built too high until we get clearances from those concerned in both presbyteries. I have no question about the desirability on the part of the men in Yukon to have you. If we can get the people in the churches in Alaska Presbytery to dig in for further progress after the help you have given them, it would then be possible for you to go to the interior for fall and winter.

I am planning to come to Alaska for the week prior to Easter to go "village visiting" and specialize in visiting those villages which we usually miss on the seminar trips. There will be time to talk about this plan.

The Moderator will be coming directly to Juneau for Presbytery and he and I will be leaving there on Wednesday or Thursday for Yukon Presbytery. We expect to go on to Barrow for Sunday and then return from Fairbanks directly to Seattle.

Best wishes to you.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bs
cc: Mrs. Swanson, Kake, Alaska
Rev. Pritchard



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE. NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

RIVERSIDE 9-2200

March 11, 1960

The Rev. Ronald E. Snelling
Box 448
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Ron:

You probably have heard from Mrs. Swanson that she has been invited to Saint Lawrence Island and the interior for some Christian Education Leadership/^{work} next fall and winter. She has been wanting to do this for some time and the men up there have been asking for her help.

It would seem that she is fairly well scheduled up to Presbytery time and then should take over the summer program which would keep her in your presbytery until August. She states that she has no requests yet for services in Alaska Presbytery for next fall and winter and thinks this might be the occasion when she could go to the interior.

Could we do some advanced planning for the April Meeting of Presbytery in which definite suggestions and helps could be offered to the workers in Alaska Presbytery for the stimulation of the program next fall and take an action to release Mrs. Swanson to go to Yukon from September to March or April? It would be good for the churches up there to have her and I think it would lift her spirits to go.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JKJ:bs

cc:Rev. Fritchard

P.S. Glad to get the word of the placing of the piling and the real progress on the addition. Things are real hopeful.

February 16, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
c/o Rev. Ronald Snelling
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

It was a pleasure to receive your note that you have had a real spiritual blessing in your five-week visit to Hydaburg. I appreciate also the fact that you sent me a copy of your letter to your family which has set forth more in detail what this experience has come to mean to you. Words will not express the joy I feel in my heart that you have had this spiritual experience and have had a deepening realization of the needs of Alaska and your own background experience and spiritual capacity and training to help us meet those needs. After months of uncertainty on your part as to whether you ought to remain in the program of the church or teach school, whether you ought to stay in the kind of work which you are doing now or return to the South MS, it is a real thrill to have you say that you feel you would not be happy in doing any other thing in any other place. Surely after these twenty years, the spirit of God has moved in your heart to lead you to a great decision.

There are many evidences that the spirit of God is moving mightily in our work in Alaska. You are the third person in recent months who has written of deeper spiritual understanding and commitment to the program and the church. I shall look forward to a visit with you next April when there will be an opportunity to talk more about this.

Best wishes to you and blessings upon you as you have caught a new vision of your tasks for Christ and the church in Alaska.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bh

Dictated by Dr. Jackman: signed in his absence.

Hydaburg, Alaska
February 3, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I am enclosing a letter which I have sent out to members of my family and which gives, for you probably more than for them, what it has meant to me to come back to Hydaburg. There has been nothing momentous as far as the five weeks are concerned - it is just my spiritual hearing has been recovered and I will leave here with the reverse feeling of my Craig experience. I will stay in S.E. Alaska or whatever or wherever. The next move for me will have to come at your or Presbyter's suggestion. I believe I am "settled" mentally and spiritually speaking. Even thinking about leaving the work of the church makes me uncomfortable. I am sure, unless some very definite event occurred to point the way, that I would be quite unhappy in any other field.

The Moyers seem discouraged and of course I see in them (in Mary Ellen especially) myself 20 years ago. The people of Hydaburg have responded to me as to an old friend, but Paul had also done some good ground work. These folks were ready for me there is no doubt about it. However, I just hope that their response has not contributed to their discouragement. Telling them of some of my experiences does not help too much. Twenty years to them might as well be a hundred. But I do wish I could do or say something that would give them the boost they need and help to restore confidence in themselves as well as in the people.

I am very happy about my piece of property which I have been able to buy from Elmer Parker's brother for just about the exact amount he put in to it. So will spend my vacation this year and next getting a house built for myself. This also contributes to my feeling of being settled.

Please greet Mrs. Jackman for me.

Sincerely

Hydaburg, Alaska
February 3, 1900

Dear Family

The month in Hydaburg has seemed to evaporate. It has been a wonderful time for me and evidently for the people too as they have responded with warmth and enthusiasm to my demonstration teaching sessions (two each week) and to the other special meetings. I had dreaded and even tried to get out of coming here but am so glad the Lord led (I should say coaxed or even forced) me to return here. The thing I dreaded most was to return to a deteriorating, dying town such as I found in Klawock last spring. The years of poor income showed up in all aspects - houses, streets, water lines, people (in Craig too) But that is not true here. The families of the younger generation who have remained have built within the past ten years, new houses, repaired and repainted the old, rebuilt what was the old "Big Store" into a hall for community functions and the old town hall into a town gymnasium.

And of course more heart warming still for me is the sight of some who were children when we were here now active in the church and Sunday School and some who were mothers with growing children now young grandmothers with more free time and they are helping in the S.S. And some who I would have thought beyond hope have found their peace and joy in Christ and are not only active in the church but leaders. Last spring I had the very decided feeling that the years for me had been wasted. But during the year since then I have had three letters just out of the blue from people up here who wrote because they were "just thinking of me" and wanted to tell me how much it had meant in their lives that they had been under our ministry. And now this climax.

Our church devotional booklet "Today" for January 30 seemed just for me - at least I took it to myself. Something I already knew but God's Spirit made it a message for my heart and mind that day and ever since. -----

"Why do we often feel that nothing is happening? Because the Kingdom of God operates by God's plan and on His schedule, not ours. while we anxiously wait for God to do what we want Him to do, we miss what He is doing. As our need is growing quietly in the ground, so God's Word is growing and bearing fruit in the world and in us until the harvest." So thanks be to God for His Unfathomable Gift and for His ever present love and guidance which is there ready for me and everyone to draw on - only I don't. What I would have missed if I had not returned to Hydaburg because has been able to get "through" to me here.

This is my 34th year in Alaska and with the new State bringing about some changes in land management, I have decided it is time for me to get a piece of land while still available. It is possible to file on what is called a "small land tract." There are certain minimum requirements for improvements that must be made within two years. It has been my good fortune to get a 4 acre tract at Haines from a friend now living in the States whose health would not permit him to keep it. The required clearing has been done and a roadway built from the main highway. He just finished building last summer the 10 x 12 cabin - which is the least size accepted. It is only about 1 1/2 miles out of Haines proper and situated amongst the birch and cottonwood trees - some overgrown, too. There are three other of our Presbyterian missionary families who have filed in this same area. There is a stream running between my property and my neighbors and even across another corner of mine which makes ours more desirable than some.

I love the Haines area, like the climate, the scenery and the people. So my little spot will be my "haven" for the next few years when vacation time comes around. If I can add some rooms each year I will have myself a home by the time I retire which is less than fifteen years away. It gives me real pleasure to think of you and my nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews visiting me there.

I leave Hydaburg February 8 then on the Petersburg for February 11 to end of month. Then to Kake until March 15 - on back to Juneau until end of March, etc.

I always look forward to hearing from you.

My love to all

Hydaburg, Alaska
February 5, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

With regards the summer planning, Dick Stussi has called to my attention the ruling of the Board about the crew only traveling on the Princeton-Hall. I remember that the Jenkins were on board with Dick one summer but that was no doubt before such a ruling was made. We had, I thought, used the S.J.S. last summer because Dick was not here to run the other ~~bbat~~. Shall we plan for the use of another boat this summer? If not we will need to eliminate one team.- or Seminary couple.

Also a letter from Lou Grafton telling me that he and his wife will run the Vacation Schools at Craig and Klawock so this eliminates another team. We will work Hydaburg in with Metlakatla and Ketchikan or possibly the Anna Jackman team could come ashore for this one school.

I go from here to Craig for over night as I need to make a trip to Klawock, too, for financial reasons. Then on to Petersburg until end of February and Kake until middle of March. Both ministers have teachers and congregations lined up. What a help this is. However, I believe the best addition to my work now are the Saturday demonstrations with the children and I believe that from now on I can do even more in four weeks than I have been able to do in the six - with full cooperation from the men and their teachers.

I have written Chuck Jenkins and offered to help him in April. Mr. Garvey also wants help and the ministers in Juneau want me (or someone they say) back again. So it looks as though the work is beginning to gather momentum.

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

cc/ Bill Pritchard
Dick Stussi

Mayfield

FEB 8 1960

January 22, 1960

Dear Mayreld:

As you know, in the first part of 1959 the Board ruled that the PH was to only carry its crew members, but no passengers. It was my understanding that in about May Dr. Jackman asked the Board if this restriction applied to Vacation Bible School workers. The Board ruled that in as much as they were not employees of the Board they could not be carried. As a result the ship was tied up for the summer and you used the SJS II.

To my knowledge the Board has not changed its ruling on this matter so I can not see how the PH can be used in the Vacation School program this coming summer.

I trust that your work is going well in Hydaburg. Our greetings to all there.

Dick Stuss

JAN 26 1960

Hydaburg.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I would have missed a real blessing if I had not returned to Hydaburg. My stay here is a very happy one! Resonance is the best and we are accomplishing things. Ghosts of the past have completely disappeared and peace reigns. (at least within me)

I am staying a full 5 weeks. With my double demonstrations I had thought 4 weeks would be plenty & they are almost. But Paul feels I am needed so am staying.

Am sending the enclosed out to all your churches & to the men in the interior. Hope to do another one next month.

Thought you would be interested & glad to know my brakes are off - feet no longer dragging.

Maynard

AUG 23 1960

Box 164
Haines, Alaska
August 19, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman,
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I shall be on vacation here in Haines until September 1st. I have had nothing definite from Mr. Bartholomew but talked with Bob Van Nest two nights ago and he is to try to arrange a meeting with the Anchorage ministers about Sept 8 or 10 - if they wish such a meeting. I felt it would help them if I could outline with them some plans for my stay in Anchorage which was set tentatively for the time that I return from St. Lawrence Island. I am still waiting to hear from Art French as to which town he wishes me to arrive in first. He is to let me know

I am keeping my post office box 1199 in Juneau as my permanent address but as soon as I have some definite dates and addresses for my schedule in the Yukon Presbytery I will have several copies made up and sent to you and to my various supporting churches and friends. In the meantime I am receiving my mail here directly or am having my Juneau mail forwarded.

On my way to Anchorage shall stop at Tok, also in Palmer and Wasilla to visit and talk plans with these ministers.

I was over at Sitka on Wed. Aug. 3 and 4 and came to Haines by ferry on the 5th. Have everything up here now. Will take some books and supplies with me. Bob Van Nest invited me to leave the car in the unused half of his garage so that little problem is solved.

Will be seeing Roland Rosson next week to have an evaluation session with him and also to consider plans for the future.

cc/ Bill Pritchard Sincerely,

Magned

AUG 23 1960

Box 164
Haines, Alaska
August 19, 1960

Dr.. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I did not realize that you are still in New York. Talked with the Nelson's this a.m. and they said they had heard from you. I had understood that you would be on your way to Palestine by this time so recently wrote Frieda about unused portions of planes tickets for team members with the tickets. I could have handled them up here but for the question that came up regarding the "pool".

There is still some question in the minds of the men in the Yukon Presbytery regarding my transportation costs.while up there. I am planning to send in with my monthly reports my plane fare out to St.Lawrence Island and back and also my gas and oil- unless I hear differently from you. I have not learned as yet how much the plane fare is out there but will pay it out one way at least. I am hoping the churches will want to contribute to this program regardless of what the Alaska Presbytery has been required to do.

I am in this same mail sending my V.C.S. report - financial and statistical with refund of amount of money not used.

I have not told you that I went ahead with the surgery for the removal of the cysts on my thyroid gland which included some of the glands also. Nothing malignant. I came in from Hood Bay to have this done. Entered hospital on July 21st. Left the 25th. Was in my apartment until end of July then used the one across the hall until I went over to Sitka for two days. Found everything moving along smoothly on the project with Army heading things up and everyone having a wonderful time. Also discovered this thing about the plane refunds.

Am in Haines now on my own bit of land and in my own bit of a house and thoroughly enjoying the place.

My sincere good wishes to you and to Anna as you journey on to Palestine and other parts. I do hope you will have a truly wonderful vacation.

Sincerely,

Mayfield

August 24, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Box 164
Haines, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Thank you for your letters and reports of August 19 for our information about yourself and the summer program.

We are glad to know your surgery was successful and that everything seems to be clearing up all right. How did you come out financially in it? We take it that you are aware of the emergency medical clause through the Board of Pensions participation and that there is some help there for you if your bill has totaled more than 5% of your annual earnings. We trust that you had insurance enough to cover these extra bills.

We are glad to know that you are enjoying your own "bit of land" and your own "bit of a house," in Haines. This should add to your sense of stability in your work.

We leave here by Pan American jet on the morning of the 12th of September and will be gone until October 27th. There will be 19 of us leaving New York and we will pick five additional people in Europe. Three of these are Norma Hoyt of Anchorage and Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Stone of Anchorage. They are going on ahead over the Pole.

We shall be thinking of you on St. Lawrence Island while we are gone.
Best regards to you.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackman

JEJ:kmc

August 24, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Box 164
Haines, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

We have received your report and review for the vacation church school program for this summer. We appreciate the evaluations which you have given us and the general information. Some of the young people have indicated that they had difficulty about food and about having to use their own money to provide food. I am certain there must be something wrong about this observation because you have indicated that there was a good allowance or they were given the privilege of a charge account at the store to get what food they needed for a balanced diet. Most of them felt that your orientation program was excellent but two or three have stated that they felt they should have had more direction on the need to adapt the program materials to the local situations. A few of their observations seem to come from a surface knowledge of the field and its needs but most of them have been very good.

You have raised a question about your support and expense while you are working in Yukon Presbytery during the next months. Let me say that we stand ready to undergird you in your work on your present level of support and expense. However Art French had talked about paying the transportation one way, Frank Walk-up had talked about taking your salary and rent for the time you would be at their service and others have spoken about making some contribution or payment from their respective churches toward salary and support while you are there. My feeling would be that every church which can afford to pay any or all of your salary and expense should do it. Basically, they should not ask, what they can get from you for nothing, but what they can pay in appreciation for the fine quality of service you will render for them. Because you will be moving around it may be best for us to continue our present system of depositing your check to the bank in Petersburg and have you send to us with your monthly report the amount which the local churches can and will contribute toward salary and expense. This will give you greater assurance but should not lessen the responsibility of the local groups whom you will be serving.

We were glad to get your report or explanation to the fifteen young people on the "travel pool" into which they were asked to pay an average amount regardless of their places of assignment and respective costs. The total bill was more than we received. You indicated in your letter that the young people seemed to be satisfied with this explanation. Miss Armstrong brings the report that one or two may not have been satisfied. This leads us to the question whether we should let the matter drop here or whether we should take the

August 24, 1960

lowest cost figure of \$143.58 and make a refund to everyone of the difference between this and what they paid (\$163.-). If they do this it will have to come out of National Missions funds, but we would rather do this than to have young people going home feeling that National Missions has profited at their expense. Actually they have put much less into it than National Missions has in total cost but few of them might look at it in this way. They did not use their plane tickets between Juneau and Sitka but they did get transportation on the Mission motorship. If you have any wisdom or recommendation on this we would be glad to have it as soon as possible.

Meanwhile we will send these unused tickets to Vagabond Cruises and ask them to collect the refunds. Since the tickets were issued by Pacific Northern it will be necessary to go to Pacific Northern to collect.

In case you have not heard, Miss Koerner was in the hospital at the end of July for a triple hernia. She is recovering as rapidly as could be expected for this amount of surgery at one time. She will return to the office after Labor Day on a part time basis and then work into full time as rapidly as strength returns and she is able to do it.

Best regards to you as you enter another new experience in your service to Christ and the church.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:kmc

CC. The Rev. William M. Pritchard, Jr.

Gambell, Alaska
November 3, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Freda wrote me that you would have only about a half day in New York before leaving again so doubt you have had time to go through much of your mail accumulated during your absence.

A combination of factors led me to write you that this will be my last year with the Board, unless, as I wrote you earlier, something else should develop.

In the first place I wish to be settled in one location. Also, you will remember that when the invitations came for me to work in the Yukon Presbytery, I had not received any other applications to work in S.E. Alaska churches and this from the first was to be the indication of the value of rather need of this type of work. This last coupled with the fact that I feel personally that my work with the Native people has reached a stalemate, has made me feel the time has come to resign. July of '61 will be my 25th year in the area- 15 with Verne and 10 as an employee of the Board.

Then too, when it was agreed that I should come out here it was on the strength of Art French's invitation and one other. I was rather dismayed when it was necessary for me to write sometime in August - rather I wired- to determine if plans were to go through in this Presbytery for my coming, since I had never received any definite plan or schedule making me feel that the services were desired. I did meet with the Anchorage men after arrival and plans were then set up. Also, before coming I had a phone call from John Bartholomew plus a wire from Art and a letter from you. However, when these matters were so uncertain, I was already in August looking into the matter of going back into public school teaching, especially if a permanent place could have opened up in Haines where I will eventually have my home. The 3 months situation at 1st church, about which we were both approached some time ago, is not now possible.

There is also the matter of the request that I do more with a Youth work and recreation program. To set up such a program would require organization and leadership for which I am not qualified. Children's work seems to be my field so I had better stay with it.

I had a fine reception from the ministers in Anchorage who stated they will take all the time I can give them. Have had a response out here at Savoonga and Gambell even beyond my expectations. However, when I was in Anchorage, I looked into the school situation there, thinking that if I am to go back into public school teaching in the fall of 1961 I would inquire and discovered there that they have an age 50 limit for hiring teachers. This is not true in all school systems but it made me realize that if public school teaching is to be my future work I had better get back into it and soon, since I already do not meet requirements for the Anchorage system - in fact it gave me a bit of a fright. One can ignore the facts of oncoming age only so long and my interview there made me face up to the age factor as related to anything I am to do in the future.

Louise Weeks has done some inquiring on her own, bless her, not at my request - but came up with another possibility in one of the "On-Base" schools for which one needs not be 50 or under. There could be an opening there as early as the end of January. I have also this past week received a letter from a school board member in Haines asking me to get my credentials in, a teacher is leaving there.

Not

Now I am wondering if I will be wise in the face of these sudden "pressures" to resign as early as January 31st. On the other hand I am faced with definite commitment to Paul Moyer who ordered the Faith and Life Curriculum ~~for~~ the Palmer church on the strength that I would be on hand to help his teachers install and use it in January. Of course there are the other churches too but there does not seem to be the urgency in them as in this particular situation, although no doubt the need for teacher training et cetera.

On my side of the picture again - I asked you in my letter earlier- if I stay on until September 1 1961- what amount of time would be coming to me vacation and furlough-wise before that time - or should I say if I work up until the time in June when I help with the training and orientation of the summer workers?

It will help me very much if you can give me some answers while I am still out here at Gambell. Expect to stay until November 24 when I am scheduled to be back in Anchorage to begin helping in the Nanuka Valley church. Of course there you have Hal Banks who is a Christian Education man.

A copy of this goes to New York just in case it will reach you before leaving there to go to Anchorage. I will appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely

Mayreld
Mayreld Swanson

cc/ New York office.
Bill Pritchard

/Savoonga, Alaska
October 21, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

By the time this reaches, you will have arrived home. I hope you have had a good trip and a real vacation.

I am thoroughly enjoying my work out here with the French's and their fine Eskimo congregation. It has been one of the finest experiences I have had in recent years and certainly a real privilege to work with them. I have heard so much about these people and their villages through the years, that they have all seemed very familiar to me and I have been very much "at-home" among them.

It has been good to hear them speak often of Louise Avery, Ann Bannan, and Alice Green. Certainly the sacrifice of their years and lives in these isolated places tells in the lives of these warm hearted Christian Eskimo.

I see the marks of Louise Avery or somebody's Christian Education training all over the place here in the Savoonga church and Art keeps uncovering items and supplies - teaching tools that are good and so the repetition of their use by me for some of these teachers should be of value.

The French's have been most cooperative in attending sessions and in putting into immediate affect, methods and changes suggested. The 23rd will be my last Sunday here and I am anticipating another happy four weeks in Gambell and surely hope the time and money spent in getting me out here will prove worthwhile.

I am sorry I will not be able to see and talk with you in Anchorage. Art and I talked at first of speeding up my schedule here but it became apparent as I spent more time with the folks that I should use all of the time planned originally. I would have preferred telling you personally what I am now about to write you.

My work in S.E. Alaska is apparently at an end so that unless something else develops, my services with the Board will be terminated in September of 1961 or possibly earlier. I will appreciate knowing what part of the total year can be applied to the three months furlough or vacation time. If I am to return to public school teaching I will need to be free before the first of September.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Mayreld
Mayreld Swanson

cc/ Bill Pritchard

November 17, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
Gambell or Savoonga
St. Lawrence Island
Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Your letter to me at Anchorage was received from Art French, but the time there was so crowded with meetings and conferences that there was no time to get letters answered. In fact, I did not have as much time with Art as I had wanted.

We are greatly interested in your plans to teach school, and someone along the way indicated that there was a possibility of your leaving us in January to return to Haines to teach. We do not have from you when your termination of service might come, but in response to your inquiry, I have looked up the record of service in order to know what furlough provisions should be coming your way. Your last furlough included September through December of 1957, and you were on leave of absence for study from January 1 to June 30, 1958. This would seem to indicate that if you leave the service of the Board in January of 1961, you would have two and a half months credit; and if you left at the end of June 1961, you would have three months credit for furlough. This is based on one month of furlough for each year of service in Alaska.

Art may have told ^{you} that the Synod Committee of National Missions has requested the transfer of the administration of the Alaska Work to that Committee, and the two Presbyteries have voted for the same thing. This will have to go to the Board for final decision. If the Board approves the requests, the administration will be transferred to the Synod, and there will no longer be a Department of Work in Alaska.

From our viewpoint, we would be sorry to see you leave the service of the Board, but realize you have been wandering around for a long time now without a central headquarters to call home. In fact, I thought of this the other day when I saw your car filled with your belongings, parked in front of the Trinity manse. We can well understand many of your reasons for thinking in terms of teaching school and being settled in one place, but you have been very valuable to the further development of our work in individual places and in many communities. We are delighted to know that you

Mrs. Mayrød Swanson

-2-

November 17, 1960

are having such a fine experience in the two Eskimo villages. I have a very high regard and warm affection for the people and would ask you to remember me to them. We hope to see them again next summer when we have another traveling seminary

Blessings upon you in your work and in your decisions for the future. We know that you will make every effort to serve the Lord wherever you are.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman

JED:hh

White Copy to J & J
with Col.

AL

Swanson file

December 30, 1960

Mrs. Merald Swanson
3217 Wyoming Drive
Seward, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Many thanks for your letter of December 14 with its kind words. Your expression of appreciation has been greatly appreciated.

Transition brings changes because different people and committees are bound to do things differently. I have been aware of a different attitude which has been creeping into relationships but have tried to carry on with the same spirit in the development of the work. The fact of transfer of administration will be presented to the Board on January 26.. The decision as to whether or when may be made then or may be postponed until a full meeting of the Board in the fourth week of April. We shall try to carry on in full until the date of transfer at which time I shall have no further relationship with Alaska.

We are interested in your application for a teaching position in Haines and Palmer. Both are fine communities although Palmer may have some greater advantages than Haines, but would be farther away from your "home." You would have a road connection which would be advantageous for vacation periods and the summer. We know that you will be active in the Lord's work wherever you are.

Sincerely,

JES/lb J. Earl Jackman

al
Swanson file

December 29, 1960
(dictated 12/23)

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
c/o The Rev. Ralph H. Weeks
3217 Wyoming Drive
Spenard, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Thank you for your letter of December 12 from Palmer. Your explanation of what happened regarding the rumor of teaching in Haines early in 1961 is a reasonable one. I felt there was something strange about it. We know that you have had a pull within yourself to take up public school teaching again and settle down in one place, but we also know that you have been faithful to your commitment to Christ through the Church during your service in National Missions.

We shall be following you in your work in the churches in the Interior. We know that you can be helpful to them in improving their program of Christian Education. Blessings on you during this Christmas Season.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

Box 37
Palmer, Alaska
December 12, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York, 27, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Thank you very much for your letter which I received this morning. No, I did not receive your letter mailed to me at Gambell. There are at least three other letters mailed to me out there which I have not as yet received. I wrote the Sninan's a week ago to ask them to see the Postmaster for me.

Yes, I have been hearing ever since my arrival in Anchorage and in Palmer that I am leaving the first of January to teach in Haines. I think you know me well enough after almost 25 years to know that I would not suddenly terminate my employment with the Board of National Missions nor my relationship with you as my Superior, without notifying you, as well as the Assistant Secretary.

While I was in Savoonga I received a letter from one of the School Board members in Haines telling me there would be an opening there the first of the year but she did not tell me what grade or grades nor did she give any promise of a permanent job. I told Art French about the possibility at that time but there was nothing definite for me to act on. I certainly made no statement that I was leaving January first. I have only recently sent in my application to Mr. Johns at Haines, applying for September of '61. I had no intention of leaving before I had a reply from you, nor before I had given the promised help to Paul Moyer and the Palmer church. And as far as I knew that month was going to be January, if Paul was successful in switching with one of the Anchorage men. If I had had such definite plans in mind, my letter to you would have contained that information, and there would also have been a letter from me to John Bartholomew, Chairman of the Presbytery Christian Ed. Committee. I am sorry the announcement was made on the floor of Presbytery or at all. Although I am sure Art had the best of intentions.

The following is the schedule set up for me by the Cristian Ed. Committee. It was given to me by Mr. Walkup. No doubt John Bartholomew sent me one to Gambell but it with my other mail has not as yet arrived.

December 28	-	January 24	-	Hillcrest
January 25	-	February 28	-	Anchorage First
March 1	-	April 4	-	Trinity
April 5	-	May 9	-	Fairbanks First
May 10	-	June 6	-	College
June 7	-	June 14	-	Lab School

Thank you very much for the information and for sending me th copy of your letter to me at Gambell.

Sincerely,

Mayreld
Mayreld Swanson

cc/ Bill Pritchard
John B artholomew

Address for the three months in Anchorage c/o Ralph Weeks
(They are making the little house on 3217 Wyoming Drive
the Trinity Church property available to
me for the time I am to be there)

Swanson

December 9, 1960

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
c/o the Rev. Paul Moyer
Palmer, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

We have received your letter of November 28, and Miss Koerner is working out the arrangements regarding the finances. We would prefer to have you settle all of the financial obligations on this and bill us so that it can be made a part of the cost of your ministry. The one exception we understand is that the two churches on the Island paid your transportation between villages and the balance of their promise will be sent directly here.

It is evident from your letter that you did not get my letter to you on the Island before you left. Probably it went in on the same plane on which you came out. We will try to dig up a copy of it here and forward it to you with this letter so that you will have the news which is in it. After you receive it, we would like to have more definite information from you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bh

Dictated by Dr. Jackman;
signed in his absence.

Enc. Nov. 17 letter to Miss Swanson

When \$100.- is received from
Spence re Gambell & Parsons
\$50.- each Credit as refund
on 9/1960 - \$250.- (150 Ad) Travel
Check to Petterbury bank

Ok J what about support
from churches in Jilcon, Ky
per Joe. 2nd fac of 8/24/60
letter to M. Rawson attached

K
12/6/60

DEC 5 1960

November 28, 1960
Palmer, Alaska

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I returned to Anchorage on the evening of November 24. Had a good time in both villages but believe the best was at Savoonga. I managed to bring something back with me from the Island besides ivory - a good dose of Eskimo "scabies". The first thing I thought of when I broke out with this miserable itching was "the itch" but the Shinan's and others thought it was not like any they had ever seen or had themselves so we decided I was having a case of hives. And I had a miserable time of it for the remainder of my stay on the Island and when I saw the doctor in Anchorage he confirmed my first diagnosis. Have managed to get rid of the mites at last. It seemed strange to pick up something like that at this late date. In all my years of living among and with the Natives of S.E. Alaska - in their homes and they in mine - I have never picked up anything in the way of a germ or bug so this is another item to chalk up in the list of my experiences.

I regret very much that I missed the meeting of Presbytery.

I am including in my expense account \$73.00 for meals. Including the extra seven days I was storm bound in Savoonga with the French's, I had a total of 36 days and meals provided by the French's. If we are to use the rate of \$3.25 per day suggested in the report of the Alaska Committee, I should pay them \$117.00. I have already paid them \$73.00 so still owe them \$44.00. If this total amount can be allowed I will appreciate it if the balance of \$44.00 can be sent directly to Art or else included in my November expense account report. Art did not ask for this but since the church did not help with it, thought I had better do so.

The churches out there paid for my transportation between the two villages by skin boat and dog-team which amounted to \$35.00 each way. Art French told me the remainder of the \$50.00 promised from each church will be sent directly to your office.

My fare from Anchorage to Nome to Gambell and return came to a total of \$290.10, of which you sent me \$250.00 in advance. I am including in my report for November the balance of \$40.10.

It is a pleasure to be working with Paul Moyer again and certainly a challenge to help these teachers to begin using the Faith and Life Curriculum. We are hoping that they will all be happy with the change in curriculum as well as with some changes in class set-ups and methods.

I trust you received the letter I sent to you in Anchorage via Art. I know it was a tremendously busy week for you and all the others.

Sincerely

cc/ Bill Pritchard
Art French

Mayreld
Mrs. Mayreld Swanson

*Whedder?
to Mrs. S.
100. when
paid credit
120.10 - 120.10
\$250. - 120.10
advance of 9/1/60
K10/100*

9/1/60 - 120.10 deposit in Pledgebox Bank.

VOUCHER to Board of National Missions:

DEC 5 1960 November 28, 1960
(Date Submitted—Usually 1st of Month)

This certifies that I am actively engaged in National Missions work and that I expect to continue throughout the current month (I expect to discontinue my services as of.....19.....) For these services, I am entitled to receive:

As SALARY, for the month of ~~October~~ November :
(Month Just Beginning)

Salary \$375.00

Rent allowance.....

Total \$375.00

As EXPENSES, for the month of October :
(Itemize on reverse side. Do not include salary or rent.)

Travel

Other..... \$84.22

Total expenses due \$84.22

Name Mrs. Margaret Stevens
(Sign legibly in ink)

Address Box 1199 Juneau, Alaska

☐ Check if New Address.

Pay to ☐ Name Bank of Petersburg
or (Person, if other than payee)
Mail to ☐ Address Petersburg, Alaska

This space for Headquarters use.

APPROVED _____

BUDGET CATEGORY No. 120 A (K)

DATE _____ 19 _____

UNIT _____

EXPENSES ITEMIZED

Travel

Other

Cab fares

\$ 5.00

Meals

73.00

Postage

6.22

\$84.22

Board of National Missions
United Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
Dept. of Work in Alaska
Room 1117
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N.Y.

DEC 5 1960

Name Mrs. Mayreld Swanson

Address Box 1199 Juneau, Alaska

Synod Washington

Presbytery Alaska

Month October 1960

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

Conferences

Personal.....	4
Group.....	
Session.....	2
Congregational Meetings.....	
Presbytery Meetings.....	
Vacation Church School.....	
Every-Member Canvass.....	
Leadership Training Classes.....	40
Workers' Conferences Local Churches.....	
Weekday Bible Instruction.....	
Workshops	3
<u>Other Activities</u>	

Churches Visited on Sunday.....	5
Sunday Schools Visited in Session.....	5
Young People's Societies Visited.....	2
Evangelistic Services Conducted.....	
Days on Field.....	31
Days in Office.....	
Women's Meeting-Bible St. & Associa.....	5
Community Sing.....	3
Prayer Services (Women's).....	4
Christian Ed. Presentation.....	1
Sunday School for Parents.....	1

<u>Expense Account</u>	
Railroad and other Fares	
Auto Mileage.....	
Auto Expense..Cab.fares.....	\$5.00
Hotel.....	
Meals.....	\$73.00
Telephone and Telegraph.....	
Stationery and Postage.....	\$6.22
Printing.....	
Express.....	
Miscellaneous.....	
Total.....	146.22 \$84.22

Signed Mrs Mayreld Swanson
Address Box 1199 Juneau Alaska

*36 days & meals
D 3.2 - day
44- already paid for above by Mrs. Swanson
while serving in Juneau
12/5/60*

*12/5/60 Chgo
120 A' expense
request to d/pas
(K)*

Narrative for October 1960

This entire month was spent at Savoonga. We were to have left the 25th for Gambell but the weather closed in the day after the Coast Guard boat had been in so I was over there another 7 days than I had planned on which also cut my time short in Gambell.

Highlight spiritual experience of the month was taking Communion with the members there on World Wide Communion Sunday. Language was no barrier to our mutual understanding of this Sacrament instituted ~~af~~ by our Lord nor to our fellowship in Christ during the hour. On this day and during the weeks I spent working with these dear Christian people the evidence of God's Spirit at work in individual lives was clearly seen and I was continually impressed and also grateful for those who had given years of their lives in order that this might happen.

The teachers were anxious for help so it was a pleasure to work with them and to feel that I was being of some help to them. It is always heart warming to work with people who are eager to teach in the first place and then who want and will take all the help they can get in order to do the best job of teaching possible.

I was there long enough to have three demonstrations in each department and several planning sessions with each ~~group~~ of the teachers. Everyone enjoyed the workshops in the use of handwork especially. Parents night, or Sunday School for parents, is always an occasion of real value in any church but in Savoonga even more so. The teachers in each department explained in Eskimo their use of the curriculum and their use of various methods and handwork and it was a genuine pleasure to see understanding in the faces of some of the parents as they listened.

A Christian Ed. chairman was appointed and the Session was instructed in their part in the total task.

Statistical Report			
	No. of meetings	People participating	People attending and children
Teacher meetings			
All departments	2	12	
By departments	17	13	
Worship leaders	5	2	
Demonstrations	12	15	178
Workshops	3	13	
Christian Ed. Sunday	1	12	80
Parents Night	1	9	30
Session	2	5	
Women's meetings	5		47
Superintendent	2	1	
Chr. Ed. Chairman	2	1	
Prayer Services	4		48
Community Sing	2		50
	<u>58</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>433</u>

During my five weeks in Savoonga I was a part of the community and able to share in the events and occurrences of joy and excitement and even tragedy which are produced chiefly due to the isolations of the village. Wind and weather are watched closely. Skin boats cannot be launched and planes cannot land at Gambell if weather is not right. A two year old boy cut the tendons in a foot which meant a 60 mile ride by dog team on rough terrain not yet covered with snow, in order to get him to Gambell to go to Nome. Another baby seriously ill might have been saved if he could have been flown from Savoonga by plane to a hospital in Nome but this being impossible the child died. The funeral and reaction of the family was more Christian than I have seen among many of our white and educated Christian people. The Coast Guard came over after a wait on the weather of ten days, to deliver groceries and other items of necessity for village and school which had to be lightered ashore in the skin boats.- the one good day of weather for the furation of my

stay in that village. But that was a day of excitement and real joy for the villagers. Everyone turned out from the youngest to the oldest who could help at all. I even saw one old grandmother carrying her grandchild on her shoulders, she carrying a heavy box of goods and the baby hugging two cans of something that had spilled out.

I shared in paying for the carrying of water at ten cents per bucket to fill up three 50 gallon drums. I watched daily the "bucket brigade"- the women's job of emptying at a specific beach site the garbage and waste buckets. One of the joyful events which takes place almost every week is the Eskimo sing and dance. The people ~~XXXX~~ welcome "outsiders" so I was glad to go and sit on the floor with the rest of the women, to watch and to "sweat" in the overcrowded warm room, and to be caught up enough in the intricate rhythms to find myself moving somewhat with them, too.

The prayer services at the church were an inspiration. These take place at different times, and of course always in Eskimo. One group comes on Sunday morning to pray before any of the services for the day starts- at 9:00 o'clock. Following the morning service the men and the women divide into separate groups for other prayers. On Monday morning a group of women come in to pray.

During the week I stayed on due to the weather, a young man who had spent some time in a mental hospital had another attack and threatened his father's life. Isolation again called on the patience and faith of the family and minister as all turned to God in prayer once more.

No boats were leaving Savoonga so the dogs were used to take the French's and myself to Gambell. There had been some snow but it was soft and not very deep so it was a rough ride and an unusually long one since the drivers had gone out of their way to avoid some boulders in one area. It took us five hours one day and 17 hours on the second with a stop over during the night in one of the Eskimo "camp" huts before we arrived in Gambell at midnight of Nov. 2. No one complained- the drivers least of all who had to walk at least half or more of the way over helping to push the sleds over steep and rough places. Baby Cathy never whimpered and Carolyn, carrying her second child, came through wonderfully. And for me it was a thrilling climax to a very happy five weeks of work with a warm, friendly and wonderful group of Eskimo people.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

1961 JAN 12 AM 4 57

NJ097 0A127

O:SEA050 NL PD ANCHORAGE ALASKA 11

DR J EARL JACKMAN *MR*

RM 1117 475 RIVERSIDE DR NYK

HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH HALF TIME IN SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
ANCHORAGE SCHOOL SYSTEM BEGINNING FEB 1FEEL I CAN FULFILL OBLIGATIONS
TO THE THREE ANCHORAGE CHURCHES ALSO HAVE TIME. MINISTERS AGREE
WHOLEHEARTEDLY LETTER FOLLOWING

MAYRRELD.

JAN 16 1961

3217 Wyoming Drive
Spenard, Alaska
January 12, 1961

*Received 1/12/61 - 1:00 PM
Anchorage*

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

This will give you the details regarding the wire sent you last night. You will remember my writing you from Gambell about the fact that I had been turned down by the Anchorage school system because I am two years over the age limit. However, three weeks ago I saw and talked with Gerald Markee who told me about the need for teachers in the Special Education program- and the difficulty they have in getting and keeping them. He made an appointment for me to talk with Mr. Olson the Assistant superintendent of schools, and with Dr. Coates the psychiatrist in charge of the program. They warned me of the frustrations and emotional drain on teachers- the chief reason why they lose teachers and suggested I visit and observe in some of the classes for the mentally retarded and brain damaged children. I did this and was especially impressed and interested in the classes for the brain damaged. One of the places I visited was the Treatment Center for the Alaska Crippled Children in charge of Dr. Dittman but carried financially by the A- school system. She told me that they will be needing the end of this month a teacher for half days at least until the end of May by which time it is their hope to have both classes held there placed in one of the public schools. Since that time I have had two interviews at the school - the last one Tuesday afternoon at 4:00- January 10. The last was with the above two mentioned men and with Mr. Idleman the Superintendent.

They felt they could and would make an exception to the rule regarding age in my case since the need is great and also immediate and no doubt I am one of very few applicants. Also Frank Walkup who knows Mr. Idleman had put in a good word for me.

I talked with Ralph Weeks and Paul Evans and they in turn discussed the matter with Frank and Hal ~~Banks~~ and they in turn discussed the matter in their joint meeting last Monday and all agreed it was an opportunity I should make the most of and that I could work in their schedule very easily since most of my classes and demonstrations in the churches are evenings and afternoons and on Saturdays. My classes will be in the morning at the Center so I am confident that if it is possible for me to work on a half time basis with the Board beginning February 1st that I can fulfill my obligations to the Anchorage churches at least. I will appreciate knowing if such an arrangement is possible and if this can be carried out until end of May which will give me the opportunity to get in the full three months here agreed to. My schedule takes me through March as it stands.

I wrote you earlier that I would want to terminate my services with the Board September 1st of this year and also about my desire to make use of my full time during the summer.

One of the requirements in taking the above position is that I go out to summer school and get some classes in special education which I will want to do. If I leave Anchorage as soon as school closes I can drive to Haines and give the help in the orientation and training sessions, agreed to last fall, for the summer workers. For preparation and demonstration would take about two weeks but since summer sessions in most universities begin some time after June 15 I can very easily get this in.

JAN 16 1961

Mr. Markee told me recently that if Mr. Idleman and the School Board made an exception to the age rule in my case it would be most unusual. The Weeks and our other ministers and at least two other personal friends have been standing by in prayer. Since the "door" has opened I feel I must take it. Who but the Lord would make such a plan possible.

My exceptional opportunity will be working with Dr. Dittman at the Center-learning there about the various cases before I go out for the special courses. I am also to take every opportunity to stop in to observe methods in the public schools in the primary grades in normal situations. The fact that I am being accepted in the school system is important. If after two or three years we all find that I cannot "take it" but have still proven myself an able teacher, it is quite probable that I could take a normal teaching situation. However, we both know, that no one is better acquainted with frustration and slow progress and the emotional drain involved with both than I am. This may be one reason why the job interests me and or perhaps why I feel I will qualify.

Mr. Olson suggests that in the interests of time, it will help to expedite matters if my personal references will send their recommendations immediately by letter rather than waiting for their forms to be sent. Will you please do this for me? You have never seen me teach or handle a group of youngsters but one of the questions Mr. Idleman asked me was "Do children like you?" and "Do parents like and approve of you?" I will appreciate it if you will write a letter of recommendation to

Mr. Hillis K. Idleman
Superintendent of Schools
Anchorage Independent School District
1602 Hillcrest Drive
~~Spennard~~ Anchorage, Alaska

Thank you very much.

Sincerely

Mayreld

Mayreld Swanson

cc/ Bill Fritchard
Roland Rosson

Swanson

January 17, 1961

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson
3217 Wyoming Drive
Spenard, Alaska

Dear Mayreld:

Your letter came on Monday morning, and we had the advantage of the telegram and the personal visit with you on the telephone. We have put all of these circumstances together with the result that we have a great regret in losing you from our work but know that this is something which you have been wanting to do and would not stand in your way in seeking a place in the Anchorage School District while you can get it.

At your request, I have written a recommendation to Mr. Idleman and am sending you a copy. We shall be interested in the result of your contacts with him and the School Board.

We have checked the record of your service. If your contact and employment with the Alaska School District is to take effect February 1, you should send us your formal resignation as of that date and call our attention to the fact that you do have some furlough benefits coming to you at the termination of your service. I have checked your length of service record on the card in my desk and find that you have been back on the field two and a half years which should entitle you to two and one half months of furlough provision. Therefore, if your resignation comes through as of February 1, we would continue your salary (without expense) until April 15. We shall be interested to learn of your developments. We are willing to release you from our employed service upon the expressed condition that you will become a volunteer in the Lord's work in our Church wherever you are. We know that you will continue faithful to Him and to the Church.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

EJ:bh

January 17, 1961

Mr. Willis R. Idleman
Superintendent of Schools
Anchorage Independent School District
1602 Hillcrest Drive
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Idleman:

We understand that you are considering the employment of Mrs. Mayreld Swanson in your special education program.

We are sorry to lose Mrs. Swanson in our Church program but know that she has been considering a return to public school teaching. Since this is something she has been wanting to do, we would not attempt to persuade her to stay with us but rather encourage her to come with you.

Mrs. Swanson has taken special training in the field of Christian Education, and she has had a very wide experience of many types of situations in her leadership with children and in training adults for work with children. I have not been present in groups which she has led but have received reports from the ministers in whose churches she has worked, and all of these have been complimentary. The ministers have felt that she has given a real inspiration to their teachers and a great boost to their programs. To the detriment of our own program, we would give Mrs. Swanson a very good recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bh

cc: Mrs. Mayreld Swanson